

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims in view of the following remarks.

REMARKS

Prior to the submission of this paper, claims 1, 2, 4, and 5-9 were pending. In this paper, Applicants have requested the cancellation of claims 1, 2, 4, and 5. Accordingly, when the requested amendments have been entered, the claims presented for examination will be claims 6-9.

In the Office Action issued on May 18, 2005 (hereafter “the Office Action”), claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, ¶1. However, in view of Applicants’ cancellation of these claims, the rejection is moot.

The Office Action also rejected claims 6-9 under 35 U.S.C. §112, ¶¶1 and 2. In response, Applicant agrees that “modified montmorillonite K-10” is not the same as “montmorillonite K-10”. In fact, this is illustrated in Table 1 of Applicant’s specification, which shows that although one has low conversion of resorcinol with montmorillonite K-10, one obtains 100% selectivity of 4-t-butyl resorcinol. In contrast, when the catalyst is modified montmorillonite K-10, there is high conversion, but only 27% selectivity towards 4-t-butyl resorcinol. Applicants also confirm here that Applicants intend to claim “montmorillonite K-10” in claims 6-9, rather than “modified montmorillonite K-10”.

In view of the description in Example 1 of Applicant’s specification, as well as Table 1 and the disclosure in the rest of Applicants’ specification, Applicants believe that the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, ¶¶1 and 2 have been met, although Applicants leave that

determination to the Examiner. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 6-9 under 35 U.S.C. §112 are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application.

AUTHORIZATION

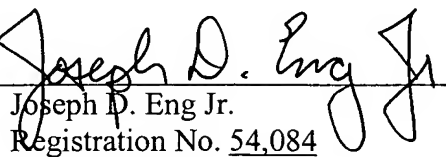
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 4347-4002. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 4347-4002. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: November 18, 2005

By: _____


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